NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

AmeriCorps*State 2012-2013

OVERVIEW

Commission:	Volunteer Louisiana
Federal Agency Name:	Corporation for National and Community Service
CFDA Number:	94.006
Funding Opportunity Title:	AmeriCorps State Competitive and Formula: New, Recompete and Continuation
Dates:	Applications are due in eGrants by **11PM CST November 30, 2012**

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION

Description

Corporation for National and Community Service: The mission of the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) is to improve lives, strengthen communities, and foster civic participation through service and volunteering. CNCS—through its AmeriCorps and Senior Corps programs and the Social Innovation Fund— has helped to engage millions of citizens in meeting community and national challenges through service and volunteer action.

Volunteer Louisiana: In 1993, Volunteer Louisiana was established in the Office of the Lieutenant Governor to rekindle the spirit of service and citizenship among the citizens of Louisiana. A policy-making body, the Commission serves as the focal point for national service efforts in the state and acts as a clearing-house for national service programs operating in Louisiana. Volunteer Louisiana awards grants to organizations and schools that foster civic responsibility and provide educational opportunities for those who make a substantial commitment to service.

AmeriCorps: This AmeriCorps State and National (AmeriCorps) *Notice of Federal Funding Opportunity Notice* (*Notice*) will focus grant making for fiscal year 2013 in six focus areas identified by the Serve America Act (SAA):

Disaster Services	Economic Opportunity
Education	Environmental Stewardship
Healthy Futures	Veterans and Military Families

In order to maximize the impact of the public investment in national service, CNCS and Volunteer Louisiana will fund programs that can demonstrate community impact and solve community problems using an evidence-based or evidence-informed approach (e.g. performance data, research, theory of change).

Publication of this *Notice* does not obligate CNCS and Volunteer Louisiana to award any specific number of grants or to obligate the entire amount of funding available.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION

Purpose of AmeriCorps funding

AmeriCorps grants are awarded to eligible organizations engaged in evidence-based or evidence-informed (e.g. performance data, research, theory of change) interventions that use AmeriCorps members to strengthen communities. An AmeriCorps member is an individual who engages in community service through an approved national service position. Members may receive a living allowance and other benefits while serving. Upon successful completion of their service, members receive a Segal AmeriCorps Education Award from the National Service Trust.

For nearly two decades, the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) has invested in community solutions across the nation -- working hand in hand with local partners to improve lives, expand economic opportunity, and engage millions of Americans in solving problems in their communities.

With its unique structure as a public-private partnership and its cost-effective model of engaging citizens and leveraging outside resources, national service offers a quadruple bottom line return on investment: benefiting the recipients of service, those who serve, and local communities and our nation.

Through all of its programs, CNCS expands economic opportunity – helping Americans acquire the skills, education, and training they need for productive employment. By helping more Americans graduate, purse higher education and find work, national service provides immediate and long term benefits, by expanding individual opportunity, building family stability, and creating more sustainable, resilient communities.

Through AmeriCorps and other programs, CNCS brings vital leadership, resources, and coordination to some of the most pressing challenges facing America: educating students for jobs of the 21st century, supporting individuals, families, and neighborhoods on the road to economic recovery; addressing the needs of military families and a new generation of veterans returning from war; helping communities rebuild after natural disasters; strengthening energy efficiency and improving at-risk ecosystems; and providing healthy futures.

ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

Eligible applicants must meet all the stated requirements in each of the following categories in order to be eligible and evaluated for funding. Any application that fails to meet one or more of these requirements will not be eligible for funding:

1. Type of Organization
2. Type of Application
3. Minimum Size Corps
4. Focus Area
5. Minimum Organizational Capacity
6. Participation in Mandatory Technical Assistance

1. Type of Organization
Public or private nonprofit organizations, including faith-based and other community organizations; institutions of higher education; government entities within states or territories (e.g., cities, parishes); Indian Tribes; labor organizations; partnerships and consortia; and intermediaries planning to subgrant funds awarded are encouraged to apply.

Organizations that have been convicted of a Federal crime are disqualified from receiving the assistance described in this *Notice.* Pursuant to the Lobbying Disclosure Action of 1995, an organization described in Section 501 (c)(4) of the Internal Revenue code of 1986, 26 U.S.C. 501 (c)(4) that engages in lobbying activities is not eligible to apply.

Current AmeriCorps grantees may apply for assistance. Receiving funding previously from CNCS or another Federal agency is not a prerequisite to applying under this Notice.

2. Types of Application
New Programs: These are organizations that have not previously received an AmeriCorps State or National grant, or are not currently managing a 2012-13 AmeriCorps State or National program. Please understand that the general practice is to award no more than 50 member slots for new grantees.

Recompete Programs: These are current grantees entering the final year of their grant period in 2012-13 and wish to be considered for future AmeriCorps funding. Recompeting programs are reminded that submitting an application does not guarantee success in securing future funding. These applicants must include information describing program impact and accomplishments for the last three years of AMC funding received. In addition, applicants must include data regarding AMC member enrollment and retention rates for the same three year period.

Continuation Programs: These are current grantees entering the 2nd or 3rd year of their grant period in 2012-13 and intend to continue their AmeriCorps programming. Continuation applicants will receive funding contingent upon satisfactory performance, continued demonstrated capacity to manage a grant and compliance with grant requirements, and availability of appropriations. Volunteer Louisiana reserves the right to adjust the amount of a grant award for subsequent years, or elect not to continue funding, on these bases.

Encore Programs: Congress set a goal that 10 percent of AmeriCorps funding should support encore service programs that engage a significant number of participants age 55 or older. CNCS seeks to meet that 10 percent target in this competition and encourages encore programs to apply.

3. Minimum Size Corps
The applicant organization will support at least five (5) Member Service Years (MSYs). An application requesting fewer than five (5) MSYs is not eligible for funding.

4. Focus Area
Disaster Services: Grant activities will:
- Increase the preparedness of individuals
- Improve individuals' readiness to respond
- Help individuals recover from disasters
- Help individuals mitigate disasters

Economic Opportunity: Grants will provide support and/or facilitate access to services and resources that contribute to the improved economic well-being and security of economically disadvantaged people. Grant activities will help economically disadvantaged people to:
- Have improved access to services and benefits aimed at contributing to their enhanced financial literacy
- Transition into or remain in safe, healthy, affordable housing
- Have improved employability leading to increased success in becoming employed

Education: Grants will provide support and/or facilitate access to services and resources that contribute to improved educational outcomes for economically disadvantaged individuals, especially children. CNCS is particularly interested in program designs that support youth engagement and service-learning as strategies to achieve improved academic outcomes. Grant activities will improve:
- School readiness for economically disadvantaged young children
- Educational and behavioral outcomes of students in low-achieving elementary, middle, and high schools
- The preparation for and prospects of success in post-secondary education institutions for economically disadvantaged students

Environmental Stewardship: Grants will provide support for direct services that contribute to increased energy and water efficiency, renewable energy use, or improving at-risk ecosystems. In addition, grants will support increased citizen behavioral change leading to increased efficiency, renewable energy use, and ecosystem improvements particularly for economically disadvantaged households and communities. Grant activities will:
- Decrease energy and water consumption
- Improve at-risk ecosystems
- Increase behavioral changes that lead directly to decreased energy and water consumption or improved at-risk ecosystems
- Increase green training opportunities that may lead to decreased energy and water consumption or improved at-risk ecosystems

In addition, the Administration is exploring ways to provide service, training, education, and employment opportunities for young Americans through protecting, restoring and enhancing public and tribal lands. CNCS is exploring potential programs along the lines of a "21st century Civilian Service Corps" that can

facilitate conservation service work on public lands and encourage a new generation of natural resource managers and environmental scientists, particularly in low income and disadvantaged communities.

Healthy Futures: Grants will meet health needs within communities including access to care, aging in place, and childhood obesity. Grant activities will:
- Improve access to primary and preventive health care for communities served by CNCS - supported programs
- Increase seniors' ability to remain in their own homes with the same or improved quality of life for as long as possible
- Increase physical activity and improve nutrition in youth with the purpose of reducing childhood obesity

Veterans and Military Families: Grants will positively impact the quality of life of veterans and improve military family strength. Grant activities will increase:
- The number of veterans and military service members and their families served by CNCS-supported programs
- The number of veterans and military family members engaged in service through CNCS supported programs

Capacity Building:

In addition to the six focus areas described above, grants also will provide support for capacity building activities provided by national service participants. As a general rule, CNCS considers capacity building activities to be *indirect services* that enable CNCS-supported organizations to provide more, better, and sustained *direct services* in CNCS' six focus areas. Capacity building activities cannot be solely intended to support the administration or operations of the organization. Examples of capacity building activities include:
- Recruiting and/or managing community volunteers
- Implementing effective volunteer management practices
- Completing community assessments that identify goals and recommendations
- Developing new systems and business processes (technology, performance management, training, etc.) or enhancing existing systems and business processes

5. Minimum Organization Capacity

The applicant organization will have an A-133 audit or an independent financial audit. New and Recompete applicants will also submit a completed Risk Assessment Form.

6. Participation in Mandatory Technical Assistance

Volunteer Louisiana will host webinars for New and Recompete applicants to provide an introduction and summary of this funding opportunity. These sessions will be held on the following dates and times:
- Friday, November 2, 2012 at 10:00 am
- Wednesday, November 7, 2012 at 1:30 pm
- Thursday, November 8, 2012 at 10:00 am
- Monday, November 19, 2012 at 1:30pm

The content of each of these calls will be the same. An organization only needs to be on one call. An organization's application will not be considered for funding unless at least one representative from the organization participates. Pre-registration is necessary to receive the call in information for the webinar. Please pre-register for the call of your choice by emailing Stephanie Trahan at strahan@crt.la.gov.

Volunteer Louisiana will host webinars for Continuation applicants to provide a refresher summary and introduction to changes in this funding opportunity. These sessions will be held on the following dates and times:
- Wednesday, November 14, 2012 at 10:00am
- Monday, November 19, 2012 at 10:00am

The content of each of these calls will be the same. An organization only needs to be on one call. An organization's application will not be considered for funding unless at least one representative from the organization participates. Pre-registration is necessary to receive the call in information for the webinar Please pre-register for the call of your choice by emailing Stephanie Trahan at strahan@crt.la.gov.

Optional technical assistance webinars will also be provided for the following topics. Participation is not mandatory and will, in no way, affect review or funding decisions. Pre-registration is necessary to receive the call in information for the webinar Please pre-register for the call of your choice by emailing Stephanie Trahan at strahan@crt.la.gov.

- Performance Measures – Tuesday, November 13, 2012 at 10:00am AND 1:30pm
- Budget Writing – Thursday, November 15, 2012 at 10:00am
- Budget Writing – Monday, November 26, 2012 at 1:30pm

AWARD INFORMATION

Funding Available
Volunteer Louisiana and CNCS expect a highly competitive AmeriCorps FY 2013 grant competition. CNCS and Volunteer Louisiana expect to award New, Recompete, and Continuation AmeriCorps grants in both the Formula and Competitive processes. The actual level of funding will be subject to the availability of annual appropriations which have not yet been made. In awarding funds, both CNCS and Volunteer Louisiana consider Continuation grants first, followed by New and Recompete grants.

Award Amount
Awards will be for funds and AmeriCorps member slots. Volunteer Louisiana and CNCS will review applications and determine the appropriate award amount, if any. Award amounts vary.

Award Period
Unless otherwise specified, the grant generally covers a three-year project period. In approving a multi-year project period, CNCS / Volunteer Louisiana generally makes an initial award for the first year of operation. In most cases, the application is submitted with a one-year budget. Continuation funding is contingent upon satisfactory performance, demonstrated capacity to manage the grant and comply with grant requirements, and availability of Federal appropriations. CNCS / Volunteer Louisiana reserves the right to adjust the amount of a grant award for subsequent years, or elect not to continue funding on any or all these bases.

Maximum Cost per Member Service Year (MSY)
Maximum Costs per MSY are set forth in the table below. CNCS / Volunteer Louisiana considers comparative costs per MSY in making funding decisions. New applicants that submit with a low cost per MSY and Recompete applicants that submit with a lower cost per MSY than previously funded may receive higher priority for funding. One MSY is equivalent to at least 1700 service hours and a full-time AmeriCorps position. The CNCS cost per MSY is determined by dividing the CNCS share of budgeted grant costs by the number of MSYs requested. It does not include child care or the value of the education award a member may earn. The maximum amount an applicant may request from CNCS per MSY is determined on an annual basis.

Continuation and Recompete grantees requesting a higher cost per MSY than in the previous year must include a compelling rationale for this increased cost. This applies even if the increased cost per MSY is less than the maximum.
New and Recompete State Commission sub-grantees/applicants will be held to the maximum cost per MSY for their grant type. This does not affect continuation programs currently funded at a higher cost per MSY.

VOLUNTEER LOUISIANA

2013 Maximum Cost per MSY

Grant Program	Maximum
Individual Competitive State Program	$13,300
Individual Formula State Program	$13,300

Reimbursement Process

All expenses are reimbursed through the submission of expense reports to Volunteer Louisiana. Reimbursements requests will not be paid until an executed contract between Volunteer Louisiana and the sub-grantee is in place. Following the receipt of an executed contract, sub-grantees will invoice for expenses on a monthly basis. Sub-grantees must demonstrate documented matching funds with each invoice. Applicants should have at least 60 days of adequate cash flow to cover the costs of the AmeriCorps programs.

Types of Grants

The types of AmeriCorps grants in this competition are described below. CNCS will not provide more than one grant for the same project in one fiscal year. CNCS recommends consulting the AmeriCorps State and National Fit Finder to decide which type of grant best aligns with your proposed project (http://www.americorps.gov/fitfinder/).

1. AmeriCorps State Grants

These grants are for organizations planning to operate an AmeriCorps program in a single state. Organizations apply through State Commissions.

2. National Direct Grants

These grants are for organizations planning to operate an AmeriCorps program in multiple states. Organizations apply directly to CNCS.

Type of Funding

AmeriCorps grants in Louisiana will be awarded on a cost reimbursement basis. Cost reimbursement grants fund a portion of program operating costs and member living allowances with flexibility to use all of the funds for allowable costs regardless of whether or not the program recruits and retains all AmeriCorps members. These grants are awarded to organizations operating in a single state or in more than one state.

FINANCIAL REQUIRMENTS TO APPLY

Match

A first-time successful applicant is required to match at 24 percent per year for the first three-year funding period. Starting with year four, the match requirement gradually increases every year to 50 percent by year 10, according to the minimum overall share chart found in 45 CFR 2521.60.

Match may be cash or in-kind. Section 121(e)(5) of the National Community Service Act requires that programs that use other federal funds as match for an AmeriCorps grant report the amount and source of these funds to CNCS on the Federal Financial Report.

Living Allowance

The proposed budget must include a living allowance for full-time members that is between $12,100 (minimum) and $24,200 (maximum) per member except as noted below. This amount must be included in the proposed budget. The living allowance is not required for members serving in less than full-time terms of service. If a program chooses to provide a living allowance to a less than full-time member, it must comply with the maximum limits in the chart below.

Table 1: Minimum and Maximum Living Allowance Service Term	Minimum # of Hours	Minimum Living Allowance	Maximum Total Living Allowance
Full-time	1700	$12,100	$24,200
One-year Half-time	900	n/a	$12,800
Reduced Half-time	675	n/a	$9,600
Quarter-time	450	n/a	$6,400
Minimum-time	300	n/a	$4,300

* If a program existed prior to the National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993 (enacted September 21, 1993), the law does not require a living allowance. If an applicant chooses to offer a living allowance, it is exempt from the minimum requirement of $12,100, but not the maximum requirement of $24,200.

OTHER INFORMATION

Member Enrollment Requirements for Existing Grantees
We expect grantees to enroll all the members included in their grant award. Enrollment rates have a direct bearing on the number of slots and the size of awards approved in the Continuation and Recompete processes. Continuation and Recompete grantees that have not achieved full enrollment in the previous year must provide an explanation and a corrective action plan in their application. Successful applicants that do not fully enroll are likely to receive a decrease in funding in subsequent years.

Member Retention Requirements for Existing Grantees
We expect grantees to pursue the highest retention rate possible. Retention rates will have a direct bearing on the number of slots and the size of awards approved in the Continuation and Recompete processes. Successful applicants that do not retain their members are likely to receive a decrease in funding in subsequent years. We recognize retention rates may vary among equally effective programs depending on the program model. Continuation or Recompete grantees that have not achieved full retention in the most recently completed program year must provide an explanation and a corrective action plan in their application.

Amount of the Segal AmeriCorps Education Award for FY 2013
AmeriCorps members serving in programs funded with FY 2013 dollars who successfully complete a term of service will receive an Education Award from the National Service Trust of $5,550 for a year of full-time service, with correspondingly smaller awards for less-than-fulltime service. The amount of the Education Award is determined on the basis of the Pell Grant award. A member has up to seven years after his or her term of service has ended to use the award.

Term of Service	Minimum # of Hours	FY13 Education Award
Full Time	1700	$5,550
One-Year Half Time	900	$2,775
Two-Year Half Time	900	$2,775
Reduced Half Time	675	$2,114
Quarter Time	450	$1,468
Minimum Time	300	$1,175

Dun and Bradstreet Universal Numbering System (DUNS) and System for Award Management (SAM)

Applications must include a DUNS number and an Employer Identification Number. The DUNS number does not replace an Employer Identification Number. All applicants must be registered with the Systems for Award Management (SAM).

DUNS numbers may be obtained at no cost by calling the DUNS number request line at (866) 705-5711 or by applying online: https://www.sam.gov/portal/public/SAM/.The website indicates a 24-hour e-mail turnaround time on requests for DUNS numbers; however, registering at least 30 days in advance of the application due date is suggested. Expedited DUNS numbers may be obtained by following instructions found here: http://smallbusiness.dnb.com/establish-yourbusiness/12334338-1.html.

SAM is combining the federal procurement system and the catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance into one new system. SAM collects, validates, stores, and disseminates data in support of Federal agency contracts, grant awards, cooperative agreements, and other forms of federal assistance. All grant recipients are required to maintain a valid registration, which must be renewed annually.

Applicants that are not already registered with SAM are urged to begin the registration process immediately in order to avoid any delays in submitting applications. Applicants must have a DUNS number in order to register with SAM. To register online go to www.SAM.gov .

APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

How to Apply

Organizations that propose to operate in one state apply directly to the State Commission for the state in which they will operate. Single-state applicants must contact Volunteer Louisiana with questions and for state-specific deadlines and application instructions. Organizations that propose to operate in more than one state apply directly to CNCS. Organizations in states and territories without commissions apply directly to CNCS. Indian Tribes may apply through State Commissions, or directly to CNCS.

This *Notice* should be read together with the AmeriCorps Regulations, 45 CFR §§ 2520–2550, the Application Instructions, and the Performance Measure Instructions which are incorporated by reference. The Notice and Application Instructions can be found at http://www.americorps.gov/for_organizations/funding/nofa.asp. The full regulations are available online at www.gpoaccess.gov/ecfr. The TTY number is 800-833-3722. For a printed copy of related material, call 202-606-7508.

Notice of Intent to Apply

Interested organizations are strongly encouraged to send a Notice of Intent to Apply to Volunteer Louisiana by e-mail to strahan@crt.la.gov by November 19, 2012. This email does not bind an organization to apply, nor does not submitting a notice disqualify an organization from being eligible for funding.

Submitting a Notice of Intent will help Volunteer Louisiana plan more efficiently for external and internal review. Include the name of the applicant organization, address, contact person, e-mail address, and phone number in the Notice of Intent. Providing an e-mail address will also allow Volunteer Louisiana to contact applicants directly if application materials are updated.

Submission Dates and Times

The deadline for applications is 11:00 pm CST November 30, 2012. Volunteer Louisiana will not consider applications received after the deadline, except when noted below. Volunteer Louisiana reserves the right to extend the submission deadline and any notice of such extended deadline will be posted in eGrants. This deadline applies to both Competitive and Formula Continuation grantees, as well as New and Recompete applicants.

Late Applications

Volunteer Louisiana may, in its discretion, consider an application received after the deadline, but only if the applicant submits an email to strahan@crt.la.gov explaining the extenuating circumstance which

caused the delay. The email must be received no later than 4:00 pm CST on 11:00 pm CST November 30, 2012. If the applicant experiences technical difficulties with eGrants that are unresolved, the correspondence must include the eGrants help desk ticket number. Volunteer Louisiana determines whether or not to accept a late application for review on a case-by-case basis.

Submitting in eGrants
Applicants must submit their applications electronically via the CNCS web-based system, eGrants. It is recommended that applicants create an eGrants account and begin the eGrants application creation process at least three weeks before the deadline. Applicants should draft the application as a word processing document, then copy and paste the document into the appropriate eGrants fields no later than 10 days before the deadline. Contact the National Service Hotline at 800-942-2677 or https://questions.nationalservice.gov/app/ask if a problem arises while creating an account, preparing, or submitting an application. National Service Hotline hours are Monday through Thursday: 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. ET. Be prepared to provide the application ID, organization's name, and the *Notice* to which your organization is applying.

If technical issues will prevent an applicant from submitting an application on time, please contact the National Service Hotline prior to the deadline to explain the technical issue and receive a ticket number. If the issue cannot be resolved by the deadline, the applicant must continue working with the National Service Hotline to submit via eGrants.

Page Limits
In eGrants, applicants will enter text in the following fields
- Executive Summary: a brief paragraph, **maximum of a half-page**. Executive Summaries of all compliant applications will be published on the CNCS website following grant award notifications
- Program Design
- Organizational Capability
- Cost Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy
- Evaluation Plan

If you are:
- Applying for the first time
- Have only received formula funding in the past
- Are a former grantee (non-formula) whose last AmeriCorps grant was received more than five years ago; OR
- A current planning grantee applying for a three-year implementation grant

You may not exceed 26 double-spaced pages for the Narratives, including the Executive Summary and Cover Page, as the pages print out from eGrants. This limit does not include the budget and performance measures or <u>required</u> supplementary materials (e.g. letters of commitment).

If you are:
- Recompeting (in year three of a competitive three-year funding cycle and applying for a new three-year grant) OR
- Not a current grantee that has received a competitive AmeriCorps grant in the past five years
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You may not exceed 27 double-spaced pages for the Narratives, including the Executive Summary and Cover Page, as the pages print out from eGrants. This limit does not include the budget and performance measures.

Reviewers will not consider submitted material that is over the page limit, even if eGrants allows you to enter and submit text over the limit. Therefore, Volunteer Louisiana recommends that applicants print out your application from the Review and Submit page prior to final submission to ensure it is not over the page limit.

Do not submit supplemental materials such as videos, DVDs, brochures, letters of support, or any other item not requested in the *Notice* or application instructions. They will not be reviewed or returned.

APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

In the FY 2013 AmeriCorps competition, Volunteer Louisiana and CNCS seeks to prioritize the investment of national service resources in economic opportunity, education, veterans and military families, disaster services. Volunteer Louisiana / CNCS will continue to focus on national service programs that improve academic outcomes for children, youth, and young adults. This focus reflects the extensive experience and past success of national service programs in education, and aligns with the efforts of the Department of Education. In addition, CNCS seeks to increase its investment in programs that serve veterans and military families or engage veterans and military families in service. CNCS will also focus investment in programs that increase community resiliency through disaster preparation, response, recovery, and mitigation. CNCS will focus investment in programs that increase economic opportunities for community and AmeriCorps members.

National Performance Measures
The SAA emphasizes measuring the impact of service and focusing on a core set of issue areas. CNCS' five-year Strategic Plan establishes an ambitious set of objectives that support the mission and goals to implement the SAA. These strategic goals guided the development of sixteen agency-wide Priority Measures. National Performance Measures allow CNCS to demonstrate aggregated impact of all its national service programs, including AmeriCorps State and National. They are divided in two categories: Priority Measures and Complementary Program Measures. For more information, please refer to the National Performance Measure Instructions.

Applicants proposing programs that receive priority consideration are not guaranteed funding. CNCS will seek to build a diversified portfolio across the focus areas, and other considerations outlined below in Section V. B. Furthermore, programs must demonstrate significant program focus, design, and impact to receive priority consideration. CNCS will give priority consideration to applicants in the following Tiers, in descending order of preference:

Tier 1: Programs that select:
- Complementary Program Measures in Economic Opportunity (Programs that select O12, O14, O15, O17 must also select an additional Priority or Complementary Program Measure from Tier 1, 2, or 3 that measures community impact), or
- Priority Measures in Education and serve in schools that received awards under the School Improvement Grants (SIG) program and are implementing one of the SIG school intervention models and/or Priority Schools identified by a State educational agency (SEA) that has received approval from the Department of Education of its request for Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) flexibility, or
- Priority Measures in Veterans and Military Families, or
- Priority Measures in Disaster Services

    NOTE: Programs that fit these Priority or Complementary Program Measures are **required** to use these measures. These measures can be found in Section IX, Tier 1. Applicants whose members will be serving in schools that received awards under the School Improvement Grants (SIG) program and are implementing one of the SIG school intervention models and/or Priority Schools identified by a State educational agency (SEA) that has received approval from the Department of Education of its request for Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) flexibility must check the box on the Performance Measure tab in eGrants "SIG/Priority Schools" to be considered for Tier 1. The "NCES School ID" will need to be entered in the service location information at the time the members are enrolled.

Tier 2: Programs that select Priority Measures in:
- Education that are not serving in schools that received awards under the School Improvement Grants (SIG) program and are implementing one of the SIG school intervention models and/or Priority Schools identified by a State educational agency (SEA) that has received approval from the Department of Education of its request for Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) flexibility, or
- Environmental Stewardship, or
- Healthy Futures, or
- Capacity Building.
   NOTE: Programs that fit these Priority Measures are **required** to use these measures. These measures can be found in Section IX, Tier 2.

Tier 3: Programs that select Complementary Program Measures. These measures can be found in Section IX. Tier 3.

Tier 4: Programs in the Focus Areas with self-nominated measures.

Tier 5: Programs outside the Focus Areas with self-nominated measures.
Continuation requests for expansion will receive priority consideration and preference in the same manner as described above.

Assessment Criteria
In evaluating applications for funding to develop a balanced portfolio, external and staff reviews will assess program design, organizational capability and cost effectiveness and budget adequacy. Additional selection factors will be applied to balance the portfolio with regard to program models, program activities, geographic distribution and communities served.

Volunteer Louisiana may contact applicants to seek clarification, resolve questions and issues and request revised budgets as part of the review process. Please note that applicants proposing programs that fit within the tiers described above.

Each applicant must clearly describe a project that will deploy AmeriCorps members effectively to solve a significant community problem. We urge your organization to submit a high quality application following the guidance in the NOFO and in the Application Instructions carefully. The quality of your application will be an important factor in determining whether your organization will receive funding. Your application will be assessed as follows:

1. Program Design (50 percent)
In assessing Program Design, reviewers will examine the degree to which the applicant demonstrates how AmeriCorps members are particularly well-suited to solving the identified community problem. Reviewers will consider the extent to which:

-Recompete grantees describe their efforts and impact to date, and provide persuasive evidence they should continue to be funded.

-New applicants already working to meet the community need identified in the application have described how the proposed use of AmeriCorps members will be more effective than what is currently being implemented or enhance existing efforts.

In assessing how you will meet the criteria, reviewers will consider the quality of your response to the following:

a. Need (7 points)

Provide persuasive evidence that the identified needs exist in the targeted community(ies). Describe the community problem(s) you will be working on. Provide documentation of the extent/severity of the need in the target community. Describe the target community including whether it is economically disadvantaged. Explain why you selected this population to be served?

b. AmeriCorps Members as Highly Effective Means to Solve Community Problems. (10 points)

What will members do? Give examples of specific proposed member activities. What will the organization accomplish that it would not otherwise accomplish through existing staff and/or volunteers? How many AmeriCorps members are you requesting? What types of slots (service terms) are needed for these members? If you are requesting different slot types, explain how the different slot types align with your program design and activities.

c. Evidence-Based/Evidence-Informed and Measurable Community Impact (10 points) Describe how the interventions the AmeriCorps members and volunteers are engaged in are both evidence-based or evidence-informed and will have a measurable community impact. Explain the impact of the AmeriCorps investment. The intervention is evidence-based if programs can demonstrate community impact and solve community problems through an evidence-based approach (e.g. based on research or backed by statistically significant evaluation findings). The intervention is evidence-informed if programs can demonstrate community impact and solve community problems through an evidence-informed approach (e.g. internal performance data, theory of change based on research).

What is the overall change you expect or plan to see by the end of the three-year grant cycle? What demonstrable impact will your program have? How will you measure that impact? How will you report on this on an annual basis? How did you determine your performance measure targets?

For Current Grantees and Former Grantees Only:

Describe your performance against objectives during your last full year of program operation. What impact has your program had? How successful have you been in solving the identified problem? If you did not meet performance targets, provide an explanation and describe your plan for improvement. What is the performance measure data collected thus far?

d. Member Recruitment (5 points)

Describe your plans for recruiting members for your program. Describe how members will be included from the local communities to be served by your program. Describe how your organization will be recruiting and engaging traditionally underrepresented populations as well as your history with working with those populations or how you will ensure success if this is a new population being recruited. Underrepresented populations may include new Americans, low-income individuals, youth from disadvantaged backgrounds (sometimes also referred to as "opportunity youth"), rural residents, older Americans, veterans, people of color, Native Americans and people with disabilities.

e. Member Training (5 points)

Describe your plan for orienting members to AmeriCorps, the community they are serving, their placement site, and the service they will perform. Describe what skills the member will acquire during their term of service. Describe how you will ensure that training provided to members will prepare members to perform all the activities they will engage in during their term of service. Describe, as necessary, the ongoing training provided to members throughout their terms. What are the anticipated training topics and the timeline for member training? How and when will you ensure that members and generated volunteers are aware of and are adhering to the rules regarding prohibited activities?

f. Member Supervision (5 points)

Describe your plan for supervising members, and how the plan ensures that members will receive adequate support and guidance throughout their terms. Who will supervise the AmeriCorps members? Describe how supervisors are selected and trained. Describe how your program provides training, oversight, and support to supervisors.

Tutoring Programs Only

If you are proposing to operate a tutoring program, describe how your program complies with AmeriCorps requirements for member tutoring qualifications. Members who tutor must have a high school diploma, and successfully complete high-quality, research-based pre- and in-service training for tutors. This requirement does not apply to a member enrolled in a secondary school who is providing tutoring through a structured, school-managed cross-grade tutoring program.

Describe how your strategy for training members complies with AmeriCorps requirements for member tutor training that is high quality and research based, consistent with the instructional program of the local agency and with state academic content standards (See Section 1111 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6311)), includes appropriate member supervision by individuals with expertise in tutoring, and provides specialized pre-service and in-service training consistent with the activities the member will perform.

g. Member Experience (3 points)

Describe the program components that enable the AmeriCorps members to have powerful service experiences that produce community impact and lead to continued civic participation and connectivity with other AmeriCorps and national service participants. Demonstrate how you will provide structured opportunities for participants to reflect on and learn from their service. Describe how your program will ensure that members are aware they are AmeriCorps members and identify as such to community members, partners, and the general public. Describe how you will connect your members with each other, with other AmeriCorps members and national service participants in the local communities in which they serve, and with other AmeriCorps and national service participants in the state, and/or nationally. How will your program foster a sense of connection with the AmeriCorps identity?

h. Volunteer Generation (3 points)

Describe how the proposed program will recruit volunteers to expand the reach/impact of the program in the community. How will volunteers help meet the identified community needs and what will be their role(s)? What role will AmeriCorps members have in volunteer recruitment and management? How will your program ensure that volunteers will not be recruited for or engaged in prohibited or unallowable activities? If volunteer generation is not possible due to your program design, please request a waiver of the requirement to recruit or support volunteers (see 45 CFR § 2520.35), enter the rationale in the waiver justification field. Your program will not be penalized for its inability to recruit or support volunteers.

i. Organizational Commitment to AmeriCorps Identification (2 points)

Describe your organizational commitment to branding national service. How will your program ensure that it and any subgrantees and/or affiliates and/or service locations will use the AmeriCorps name on websites, service gear and public materials such as stationery, application forms, recruitment brochures, on-line position posting, or other recruitment strategies, orientation materials, member curriculum, signs, banners, press releases and publications related to their AmeriCorps program?

2. Organizational Capability (25 percent)

In assessing how you will meet the criteria, reviewers will consider the quality of your response to the following:

a. Organizational Background and Staffing (8 points)

Provide the organization's mission and a brief history. Describe how the organization has the experience, staffing, and management structure to plan and implement the proposed program. Who will staff the AmeriCorps program and what is their specific role? What is their relevant experience? If positions are currently vacant, please describe the desired qualifications for each open position. What are your plans for providing financial and programmatic orientation and training and technical assistance to staff? Describe the organization's capacity to provide training and skills development for members. Describe the organization's capacity to complete an evaluation or provide support to an external evaluator. Describe your organization's prior experience administering AmeriCorps grants or other federal funds. Describe your organization's management structure and how the board of directors (if applicable), administrators, and

staff members will support your program.

For Current Grantees Only:
Describe how your AmeriCorps program is integrated and supported within your organization. Provide evidence that you have managed the program well, have performed satisfactorily, and have a record of compliance and responsiveness.

b. Sustainability (6 points)
Describe how the organization has secured, or describe an effective plan for securing, the financial and in-kind resources necessary to support program implementation and to demonstrate community stakeholder support. Describe your organization's experience raising funds to support service activities and initiatives. How will that contribute to long-term sustainability?
Outline your plans for ensuring that the impact of your program in the community is sustainable beyond the grant period. For example, you might describe how your community relationships will lead to community investment in the program's continued operation; how you will diversify your funding sources to include a wide range of stakeholders (such as state, local, and private sector funding); how your strategies for recruiting and supporting volunteers will sustain member activities after your AmeriCorps grant ends; or how the community will maintain your project once it is completed. Who are your community stakeholders and partners? How are they involved in planning and implementing the proposed program? How will their involvement contribute to long-term sustainability?

c. Compliance and Accountability (11 points)
What are your plans for monitoring program and service sites for compliance? Describe how the organization has the ability and structure to ensure its and its subgrantees and/or service site locations' compliance with AmeriCorps rules and regulations including those related to prohibited activities. How will your organization ensure compliance with AmeriCorps rules and regulations at the grantee, subgrantee, and service site locations (if applicable)? How will your organization prevent and detect compliance issues in general and specifically as it relates to prohibited activities? How will your organization hold itself, subgrantees, and service site locations (if applicable) accountable if instances of risk or noncompliance are identified?

Special Circumstances
In applying the organizational capability criteria, reviewers may also take into account the following circumstances of individual organizations: The age of your organization and its rate of growth; and whether your organization serves a resource-poor community, such as a rural or remote community, a community with a high poverty rate, or a community with a scarcity of philanthropic and corporate resources.
In considering applications, CNCS shall ensure meaningful representation of applicants from urban areas, applicants from rural areas, applicants of diverse sizes (as measured by the number of participants served), applicants from States, applicants from multi-state programs, and faith- and community-based organizations. If you feel that any of the circumstances stated above have an impact on your organizational capability that has not already been discussed, please describe the circumstance and how it affects your organizational capacity.

For Current Grantees and Former Grantees Only:
Demonstrated Compliance: Describe any compliance issues and areas of weakness/risk identified during your last full year of program operation at your organization, your subgrantees, and service site locations (if applicable). If you, your subgrantees, and/or service site locations (if applicable) had compliance or areas of weakness/risk identified, provide an explanation and describe the corrective action taken and your plan for improvement.

Enrollment: If you enrolled less than 100% of the slots received during your last full year of program operation, provide an explanation, and describe your plan for improvement. Enrollment rate is calculated as slots filled plus refill slots filled divided by slots awarded.

Retention: If you were not able to retain all of your members during your last full year of program operation, provide an explanation, and describe your plan for improvement. While we recognize retention

rates may vary among equally effective programs depending on the program model, we expect grantees to pursue the highest retention rate possible. Retention rate is calculated as the number of members exited with award (full or partial award) divided by the number of members enrolled.

3. *Cost Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy (25 percent)*

In assessing how you will meet the criteria, reviewers will consider the quality of your response to the following:

a. Cost Effectiveness (13 points)

Explain how the budget is cost effective. Explain how the requested funds do not exceed the maximum cost per Member Service Year (MSY) or for existing programs, have not increased over previous years. The amount requested is a competitive factor in the selection process.
The cost per MSY will be automatically calculated once you enter your budget in eGrants. The cost per MSY is determined by dividing the CNCS share of budgeted grant costs by the number of MSYs requested in the application. It does not include childcare or the cost of the education award. One MSY is equivalent to at least 1700 service hours, a full-time AmeriCorps position.
Cost effectiveness will be evaluated by analyzing cost per MSY in relation to your program design. Having a low cost per member is a competitive advantage. New applicants that submit with a low cost per MSY and Recompete applicants that submit with a lower cost per MSY than previously funded may receive higher priority for funding. If you request above the maximum, you must justify your request. Please note that such requests are rarely approved.
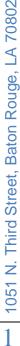
All Recompete grantees requesting a higher cost per MSY than in the previous year must include a compelling rationale for this increased cost including why this increase could not be covered by grantee share. **This applies even if the increased cost per MSY is less than the maximum or if the increase is due to increased costs associated with the grant.**

Please list all sources of organizational funding and what percent the proposed AmeriCorps project represents in your budget. If you have received support from CNCS during the last five years, please specify what type of support you received. What percentage of your total operational budget does your proposed funding request from CNCS represent? If a multi-state applicant, please include any State Commission funding requests if applicable to calculate the percentage of your total operational budget. Demonstrate how your program has or will obtain diverse resources for program implementation. Indicate how much funding your program needs from non-CNCS sources to support the project. Indicate the non-CNCS resource commitments (in-kind and cash) that you have obtained to date and the sources of these funds. Indicate what additional commitments you plan to secure, and how you will secure them. Discuss how your program is a cost effective approach for addressing the community need(s) identified in your application. Consider the total costs and benefits of the program and, to the extent possible, document the costs and benefits. Compare the cost effectiveness of the program with the costs and benefits of alternative models or approaches (if available), and demonstrate how your program model is most cost effective. For further information on cost effectiveness analysis, see OMB's "Circular No. A-94 Revised" (http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars_a094). Programs will be evaluated based upon their ability to maximize their return on investment; applicants with a program design that achieves equal results at a lower cost will be advantaged over programs that achieve similar results at a higher cost.

Special Circumstances

In applying the cost-effectiveness criteria, CNCS may take into account the following circumstances of individual programs: program age, the extent to which your program expands to new sites; whether your program or project is located in a resource-poor community, such as a rural or remote community, a community with a high poverty rate, or a community with a scarcity of corporate or philanthropic resources; whether your program or project is located in a high-cost, economically distressed community, measured by applying appropriate Federal and State data; and whether the reasonable and necessary costs of your program or project are higher because they are associated with engaging or serving difficult-to-reach populations, or achieving greater program impact as evidenced through performance measures and program evaluation.
If you feel that any of the circumstances stated above have an impact on your organizational

capability that has not already been discussed, please describe the circumstance and how it affects your cost effectiveness.

For Current Grantees Only:
Describe the extent to which you are increasing your share of costs to meet or exceed program goals, or the extent to which you are proposing deeper impact or broader reach without a commensurate increase in Federal funds.

b. Budget Adequacy (12 points)
Explain how the budget is clear, reasonable, , and in alignment with the program narrative. Discuss the adequacy of your budget to support your program design including how it is sufficient to support your program activities and desired outputs and outcomes. Please explain how the cost of criminal history checks and FBI checks, if applicable, are covered if they are not included in the budget.

Goals of the review and selection process
The assessment of applications involves a wide range of factors and considerations. As in the past, CNCS will engage external reviewers to provide insight and input with respect to eligible applications. In addition, CNCS staff will apply their experience and expertise in evaluating applications. In the end, the review and selection process will produce a diversified set of high-quality programs that represent the priorities and selection factors described in this *Notice.*
Specifically, the review and selection process will:

1. Identify eligible applications that satisfy the following considerations:
- High alignment with criteria
- Priorities, in the order of preference outlined above
- Relative risk and opportunity

2. Consider:
- Recruitment and deployment of community volunteers to leverage impact
- State Commission rank and recommendations on single-state applicants
- State Commission input on multi-state applications
- The strength of the evidence base for the program

3. Yield a diversified portfolio based on the following strategic considerations:
- Geographic representation.
- Meaningful representation of
  - Rural and urban communities
  - Small and large programs
  - Single and multi-state programs
  - Faith- and community-based organizations
- Focus area representation
- Organizations that build capacity for individuals, nonprofits and communities to solve problems
- Organizations and/or program models that recruit and engage traditionally underrepresented populations as AmeriCorps members and expand opportunities to serve as AmeriCorps members; particularly new Americans, low-income individuals, economically disadvantaged young adults (also referred to as "opportunity youth"), rural residents, older Americans, veterans, communities of color, Native Americans, and people with disabilities.
- Organizations that embrace innovative approaches to solving problems, including service-learning

Applicants must check the relevant boxes in the Performance Measure tab in eGrants in order to be considered for CNCS' assessment of the above strategic considerations.

REVIEW AND SELECTION PROCESS

Internal Review-State Level
Volunteer Louisiana staff will review all submitted applications and assess Program Design, particularly focusing on evidence-basis for the proposed solution(s) to the identified community problem(s), appropriateness of national service as a solution, potential quality of the member experience, and organizational commitment to AmeriCorps identification; Organizational Capability; and Cost Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy. Submitted program evaluations will be considered at this stage. The applications will also be read by external reviewers (Peer Reviewers) who will assess applications based on the Program Design criteria only. Each application will be reviewed by at least one external reviewer. External reviewers will assess the quality of each application. Reviewers will be recruited and selected on the basis of demonstrated knowledge of AmeriCorps programming, and/or the selection criteria and focus areas. All external reviewers will be screened for conflicts of interest.

Following staff/Peer Reviewer assessment, some applicants may receive requests to provide clarifying information. Clarifying information is used by Volunteer Louisiana staff in making final recommendations. A request for clarification does not guarantee a grant award. Failure to respond to requests for information in a timely fashion will result in the removal of applications from consideration.
Volunteer Louisiana staff will determine which applications to submit to the Commissioners for recommendation for Competitive Consideration at the federal level based on their assessment of the applicants, Clarification, the Tier priorities and strategic considerations. Remaining applications will be held at the Volunteer Louisiana Commission level for consideration for Formula funding.

Compliance Review-Federal Level
CNCS staff will review all applications to determine compliance with eligibility, deadline, and completeness requirements. Applications that are submitted by eligible organizations, submitted by the deadline, and that are complete, will advance to External Review.

External Review-Federal Level
External reviewers will assess applications based on the Program Design criteria only. Each application will be reviewed by at least three external reviewers. External reviewers will assess the quality of each application. Reviewers will be recruited and selected on the basis of demonstrated knowledge of AmeriCorps programming, and/or the selection criteria and focus areas. All external reviewers will be screened for conflicts of interest.

Post Review Quality Control (Quality Control)-Federal Level
After the external reviewers complete their assessment, staff will review the results for fairness and consistency. Some applications may be selected for a Quality Control assessment. This additional level of review may be used to assess:
- Applications ranked first by a State Commission that received low scores in External Review.
- Applications for which there are significant panel anomalies.
- Applications submitted by high-performing current grantees that received a low score in External Review.
-

Applications identified for additional assessment will receive a Quality Control review. The Quality Control reviewer provides an assessment of the application's key strengths and weaknesses.

Selection of Applications for Internal Review-Federal Level
Applications will advance to Internal Review based on the results of the External Review and Quality Control, as well as the consideration of the priorities outlined in Section I.B. above and the strategic considerations identified in Section V.B.3. above. Strategic Consideration will be given based on the check boxes that are applicant determined found in the Performance Measures tab in eGrants. Note that not all applications will advance.

Internal Review-Federal Level
CNCS staff will assess Program Design, particularly focusing on evidence-basis for the proposed solution(s) to the identified community problem(s), appropriateness of national service as a solution, and potential quality of the member experience; Organizational Capability; and Cost Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy. Submitted program evaluations will be considered at this stage.

Following staff assessment, some applicants may receive requests to provide clarifying information. Clarifying information is used by CNCS staff in making final recommendations. A request for clarification does not guarantee a grant award. Failure to respond to requests for information in a timely fashion will result in the removal of applications from consideration.

CNCS staff will determine which applications to recommend for selection based on their assessment of the applicants that move from External Review and Quality Control into Internal Review, and Clarification as well as the Tier priorities and strategic considerations.

Selection for Funding-Federal Level
With the goal of a diversified portfolio based on the NOFO priorities and strategic considerations, the Chief Executive Officer will select the final Competitive portfolio based on staff recommendation from the applicants that advanced to Internal Review.

Feedback to Applicants-Federal Level
Following grant awards, each applicant will receive the results of external and, if applicable, internal review pertaining to their application. Feedback will be based on the review of the original application and will not reflect any information that may have been provided during clarification.

Following CNCS Competitive funding awards, Volunteer Louisiana will submit requests to Formula applicants to provide clarifying information. Clarifying information is used by Volunteer Louisiana staff in making final recommendations. A request for clarification does not guarantee a grant award. Failure to respond to requests for information in a timely fashion will result in the removal of applications from consideration.

Volunteer Louisiana staff will determine which applications to submit to the Commissioners for recommendation for Formula funding at the state level based on their assessment of the applicants, Clarification, the Tier priorities and strategic considerations.

Selection for Funding-State Level
With the goal of a diversified portfolio based on the NOFO priorities and strategic considerations, the Volunteer Louisiana Commission will select the final Formula portfolio from the available pool of applications, based on staff recommendation.

Continuation Expansion Requests-All Levels
Requests for continuation expansions will be assessed using the same Tier priorities as the new and recompete applications and whether the applicant has lowered its cost per MSY.

AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

Award Notice
CNCS will award grants following the grant selection announcement. CNCS anticipates announcing the results of this competition no later than June 14, 2013. Formula funding awards will be announced no later than July 31, 2013.

Documents that Govern the Grant
The Notice of Grant Award incorporates the approved application as part of a binding commitment under the grant as well as the AmeriCorps regulations and grant provisions.

Project/Award Period
CNCS generally makes grant awards for three years, with funding in annual increments. Grantees will be eligible for non-competitive continuation funding in the second and third year contingent on the availability of appropriations, compliance, and satisfactory performance. The project start date may not occur prior to the date CNCS awards the grant. AmeriCorps members may not enroll prior to the start date of the award. AmeriCorps members may not begin service prior to the beginning of the member enrollment period as designated in the grant award. A program may not certify any hours a member performs prior to the beginning of the member enrollment period.

Additional funding is contingent upon satisfactory performance, a grantee's demonstrated capacity to manage a grant and comply with grant requirements, and availability of Congressional appropriations. CNCS reserves the right to adjust the amount of an additional grant award in subsequent years, or elect not to continue funding, based on these bases.

Use of Material
To ensure that materials generated with CNCS funding are available to the public and readily accessible to grantees and non-grantees, CNCS reserves a royalty-free, nonexclusive, and irrevocable right to obtain, use, modify, reproduce, publish, or disseminate publications and materials produced under the award, including data, and to authorize others to do so. 45 CFR § 2543.36; 2541.30

Reporting Requirements
Grantees, including Professional Corps grantees, are required to provide bi-annual progress reports, bi-annual financial reports, and an internal or external evaluation report as required by the AmeriCorps regulations §§2522.500-2522.540 and §§2522.700-2522.740. Fixed-amount grantees are required to provide bi-annual performance reports and an internal or external evaluation report. All grantees provide quarterly expense reports through the Payment Management System at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

If you receive an award directly from CNCS, you will be required to report at www.FSRS.gov on all subawards over $25,000 and may be required to report on executive compensation for your organization and for your subgrantees. You must have the necessary systems in place to collect and report this information. See 2 CFR. Part 170 for more information and to determine how these requirements apply.

Re-Focusing of Funding
CNCS reserves the right to re-focus funding in the event of disaster or other compelling need for service.

IX. NATIONAL PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Tier 1: Priority Measures in Disaster Services, Education and Veterans and Military Families and Complementary Program Measures in Economic Opportunity

Economic Opportunity
O1: Number of economically disadvantaged individuals receiving financial literacy services
O9: Number of economically disadvantaged individuals with improved financial knowledge
O2: Number of economically disadvantaged individuals receiving job training and other skill development services
O3: Number of economically disadvantaged individuals receiving job placement services
O10: Number of economically disadvantaged individuals placed in jobs
O12: Number of economically disadvantaged National Service Participants who are unemployed prior to their term of service*
O15: Number of economically disadvantaged National Service Participants that secure employment during their term of service or within one year after finishing a CNCS-supported program*
O14: Number of National Service Participants who have their high school diploma or equivalent but have not completed a college degree prior to their term of service*
O17: Number of National Service Participants that complete a college course within one year after finishing a CNCS-supported program*

Disaster Services
D1: Number of individuals that received CNCS-supported services in disaster preparedness
D2: Number of individuals that received CNCS-supported services in disaster response
D3: Number of individuals that received CNCS-supported services in disaster recovery
D4: Number of individuals that received CNCS-supported services in disaster mitigation

Education – Operating in School Improvement Grant(SIG)/DOE Priority Schools
ED21: Number of children that completed participation in CNCS-supported early childhood education programs
ED23: Number of children demonstrating gains in school readiness in terms of social and/or emotional development
ED24:   Number of children demonstrating gains in school readiness in terms of literacy skills
ED25:   Number of children demonstrating gains in school readiness in terms of numeracy (math) skills
ED2: Number of students that completed participation in CNCS-supported K-12 education programs
ED4A: Number of disadvantaged youth/mentor matches that were sustained by the CNCS-supported program for at least the required time period
ED5: Number of students with improved academic performance in literacy and/or math
ED27: Number of students in grades K-12 that participated in the mentoring or tutoring or other education program, including CNCS-supported service learning, who demonstrated improved academic
ED6:Number of students that improved their school attendance over the course of the CNCS-supported program's involvement with the student

Veterans and Military Families
V1: Number of veterans that received CNCS-supported assistance
V8: Number of veterans' family members that received CNCS-supported assistance
V7: Number of family members of active duty military service members that received CNCS-supported assistance
V9: Number of active duty military service members that received CNCS-supported assistance
V2: Number of veterans engaged in service opportunities as a National Service Participant or volunteer.
V10: Number of military family members engaged in service opportunities as a National Service Participant or volunteer.

*Programs that select O12, O14, O15, O17 must also select an additional priority or complementary program measure from Tier 1, 2, or 3 that measures community impact.

1051 N. Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Tier 2: Priority Measures (in Education, Economic Opportunity, Environmental Stewardship, Healthy Futures and Capacity Building)

Education – NOT operating in School Improvement Grant(SIG)/DOE Priority Schools
ED21: Number of children that completed participation in CNCS-supported early childhood education programs
ED23: Number of children demonstrating gains in school readiness in terms of social and/or emotional development
ED24: Number of children demonstrating gains in school readiness in terms of literacy skills
ED25: Number of children demonstrating gains in school readiness in terms of numeracy (math) skills
ED2: Number of students that completed participation in CNCS-supported K-12 education programs
ED4A: Number of disadvantaged youth/mentor matches that were sustained by the CNCS-supported program for at least the required time period
ED5: Number of students with improved academic performance in literacy and/or math
ED27: Number of students in grades K-12 that participated in the mentoring or tutoring or other education program, including CNCS-supported service learning, who demonstrated improved academic engagement
ED6: Number of students that improved their school attendance over the course of the CNCS-supported program's involvement with the student
Economic Opportunity[1]
O5: Number of economically disadvantaged individuals, including homeless individuals, receiving housing services
O11: Number of economically disadvantaged individuals, including homeless individuals, transitioned into safe, healthy, affordable housing
Environmental Stewardship[2]
EN4: Number of acres of national parks, state parks, city parks, county parks, or other public and tribal lands that are improved
EN5: Number of miles of trails or waterways (owned/maintained by national, state, county, city or tribal governments) that are improved and/or created
Healthy Futures[3]
H8: Number of homebound OR older adults and individuals with disabilities receiving food, transportation, or other services that allow them to live independently
H9: Number of homebound OR older adults and individuals with disabilities who reported having increased social ties/perceived social support
H10 (formerly O6): Number of individuals receiving emergency food from food banks, food pantries, or other nonprofit organizations
H11 (formerly O7): Number of individuals receiving support, services, education and/or referrals to alleviate long-term hunger
H12: Number of individuals that reported increased food security of themselves and their children (household food security) as a result of CNCS-supported services
Capacity Building
G3-3.1: Number of community volunteers recruited by CNCS-supported organizations or National Service Participants
G3-3.2: Number of community volunteers managed by CNCS-supported organizations or National Service Participants
G3-3.3: Number of organizations implementing three or more effective volunteer management practices as a result of capacity building services provided by CNCS-supported organizations or National Service Participants

The following Economic Opportunity measures may also be used to report on your program's performance in providing services in the Disaster Services focus area,

2 The following Environmental Stewardship measures may also be used to report on your program's performance in providing services in the Disaster Services focus area,

3 The following Healthy Futures measures may also be used to report on your program's performance in providing services in the Disaster Services focus area,

1051 N. Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Tier 3: Complementary Program Measures

Education
ED1: Number of students who start in a CNCS-supported education program
ED3A: Number of disadvantaged youth/mentor matches that are commenced by CNCS-supported programs
ED7: Number of students with no or decreased disciplinary referrals and suspensions over the course of the CNCS-supported programs' involvement
ED8: Number of youth with decreased substance abuse, arrest, or gang involvement
ED9: Number of students graduating from high school on time with a diploma
ED10: Number of students entering post-secondary institutions
ED11: Number of students earning a post-secondary degree
ED12: Number of CNCS-Supported National Service Participants who begin serving as teachers through a Teacher Corps program
ED13: Number of CNCS-Supported National Service Participants who completed serving as teachers through a Teacher Corps program
ED14: Number of individuals teaching in high need schools
ED15: Number of students in CNCS-supported teacher classrooms with improved academic performance
ED17: Number of teachers remaining in the education field, but not teaching in a school (school support staff, school administration, district administration policy, education nonprofits, etc.) after their term of service
ED18: Number of teachers who have had a positive impact on student learning as determined by observation-based assessments of teacher performance
ED19: Number of individuals receiving certification to teach in schools after their term of service
ED20: Number of children who start in a CNCS-supported early childhood education program
ED22: Number of children accessing high quality early childhood education programs
ED26: Number of students acquiring a GED

Economic Opportunity
O4: Number of housing units developed, repaired, or otherwise made available for low-income individuals, families or people with disabilities
O13: Number of economically disadvantaged National Service Participants who have not obtained their high school diploma or equivalent prior to the start of their term of service
O16: Number of National Service Participants that obtain a GED/diploma while serving in CNCS-supported programs or within one year after finishing serving in CNCS-supported programs

Environmental Stewardship
EN1: Number of housing units of low-income households and structures weatherized or retrofitted to significantly improve energy efficiency
EN2: Number of low-income households home and public building energy audits conducted
EN3: Number of individuals receiving education or training in energy-efficient and environmentally-conscious practices, including but not limited to sustainable energy and other natural resources, and sustainable agriculture
EN6: Number of tons of materials collected and recycled

Healthy Futures
H1: Number of individuals who are uninsured, economically disadvantaged, medically underserved, or living in rural areas utilizing preventive and primary health care services and programs
H2: Number of clients to whom information on health insurance, health care access and health benefits programs is delivered
H3: Number of clients enrolled in health insurance, health services, and health benefits programs
H4: Number of clients participating in health education programs
H5: Number of children and youth engaged in in-school or afterschool physical education activities with the purpose of reducing childhood obesity
H6: Number of children and youth receiving nutrition education with the purpose of reducing childhood obesity
H7: Number of clients receiving language translation services at clinics and in emergency rooms

Veterans and Military Families
V3: Number of veterans assisted in pursuing educational opportunities
V4: Number of veterans assisted in receiving professional certification, licensure, or credentials
V6: Number of housing units developed, repaired, or otherwise made available for veterans

Capacity Building
G3-3.4 Number of organizations that received capacity building services from CNCS-supported organizations or national service participants
G3-3.5: Number of staff and community volunteers that received training (of one or more types) as a result of capacity building services provided by CNCS-supported organizations or national service participants
G3-3.6: Number of organizations that completed a community assessment identifying goals and recommendations with the assistance of CNCS-supported organizations or national service
G3-3.7: Hours of service contributed by community volunteers who were recruited by CNCS-supported organizations or national service participants
G3-3.8: Hours of service contributed by community volunteers who were managed by CNCS-supported organizations or national service participants
G3-3.9: Number of organizations reporting that capacity building activities provided by CNCS-supported organizations or national service participants have helped to make the organization more
G3-3.10: Number of organizations reporting that capacity building activities provided by CNCS-supported organizations or national service participants have helped to make the organization more
G3-3.11: Number of new systems and business processes (technology, performance management, training, etc.) or enhancements to existing systems and business processes put in place as a result of capacity building services provided by CNCS-supported organizations or national service participants
G3-3.12: Number of organizations that monitored their progress towards the goals identified in their community assessment with the assistance of CNCS-supported organizations or national service participants
G3-3.13: Number of additional activities completed and/or program outputs produced by the program as a result of capacity building services provided by CNCS-supported organizations or national service participants in a) Disaster Services, b) Economic Opportunity, c) Education, d) Environmental Stewardship, e) Healthy Futures and/or f) Veterans and Military Families

Capacity Building, cont.
G3-3.14: Number of organizations that have experienced an increase in requests for their programs and services as a result of capacity building services provided by CNCS-supported organizations or national service participants
G3-3.15: Number of additional types of services offered by organizations as a result of capacity building services provided by CNCS-supported organizations or national service participants in a) Disaster Services, b) Economic Opportunity, c) Education, d) Environmental Stewardship, e) Healthy Futures and/or f) Veterans and Military Families
G3-3.16: Dollar value of cash resources leveraged by CNCS-supported organizations or national service participants
G3-3.17: Dollar value of in-kind resources leveraged by CNCS-supported organizations or national service participants
G3-3.18: Number of new beneficiaries that received services as a result of capacity building efforts in: Disaster Services, Economic Opportunity, Education, Environmental Stewardship, Healthy Futures, and/or Veterans and Military Families
G3-3.19: Number of new beneficiaries from one or more targeted or underserved populations (counts by target population, e.g., racial or ethnic group) that received services as a result of capacity building efforts in: Disaster Services, Economic Opportunity, Education, Environmental Stewardship, Healthy Futures, and/or Veterans and Military Families